Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA NEWSLETTER

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Vol. 7 December 26, 1972 No. 9

STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION NAMES NEW OFFICERS

Don Gibson, Glendive, was elected chairman of the State Library Commission at its meeting in Helena on December 8. Mr. Gibson succeeds Mrs. Doris Davies, of Billings, and will be chairman for the 1973 calendar year. He is chairman of the Glendive Public Library Board, and a Dawson County Commissioner; he was appointed to the Library Commission by Governor Anderson in 1971. At the same meeting, William Conklin, Great Falls attorney, was elected vice-chairman. Conklin was first appointed to the Commission in 1969, and was re-appointed for a second three-year term earlier this year; he served as chairman in 1971.

The Commission approved draft legislation which would set up a special committee to study the governance and finance of libraries in Montana, and would make a report, with recommendations, to the 1975 legislature.

State Librarian David R. Hoffman reported to the Commission on the November 29 hearings of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, in San Francisco. Hoffman, Great Falls Public Library Board Chairman Mrs. Margaret Warden, and Montana State Prison Librarian John Mason were invited to appear before the Commission to speak on needs and potentials for library service.

STATE LIBRARY STAFF APPOINTMENTS

The State Library announces the appointment, effective December 1, of Gordon Hills, as Librarian for the Montana State Prison. Hills is a recent graduate of the University of Washington Library School. Mrs. Loraine Halvorsen joined the library staff on November 13 as a clerk in acquisitions and circulation, replacing Mrs. Elizabeth Brant.

LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT APPROPRIATION STATUS

Funding under the Library Services and Construction Act for the 1973 fiscal year is limited to the amount proposed in the President's budget, under a continuing resolution which is effective through February 28, 1973. Congress twice passed appropriation measures which were vetoed. Under the continuing resolution, Montana's share of funds is as follows, contrasted with the 1972 appropriation and the 1973 figures contained in the vetoed appropriation measures

	1972 actual	1973 proposed	1973 cont. resolution
Title I	$321,278	$372,500 est.	$265,475
Title II	114,213	134,000 est.	0
Title III	41,753	58,000 est.	42,055

COLUMBIA FALLS LIBRARY OPENED

The Columbia Falls Branch of the Flathead County Library opened on December 9, in new quarters in the former Anaconda Aluminum Company Employees Club. The library occupies the former club auditorium; remodeling of the space was made possible through county tax funds, contributions from the Couumbia Falls Library Association, and a State Library grant under Title II of the Library Services and Construction Act. Mrs. Mabel Brewer is county librarian; Mrs. Archie Corrigeux is librarian of the branch library.

New steel shelving for the new building has not been received, and wood shelving from the former library is being used on a temporary basis.

FALLON COUNTY LIBRARY OBSERVES 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Fallon County Library marked fifty years of service to the community with an open house on December 3. Mrs. Ervin Kierle is chairman of the Library Board; Mrs. Alice Newell is county librarian. Construction of the library building, opened in 1970, was made possible by a grant from LSCA Title II funds from the State Library.

SHERIDAN LIBRARY BENEFITS FROM SUCCESSFUL FUND DRIVE

The Sheridan Kiwanis Club has raised more than $950 for a book fund for the Sheridan Public Library, to augment the Library's tax income and to provide for continuing enrichment of the collection. The fund campaign, originally set for a $500 goal, was begun in 1970 when the Big Sky Federation of Libraries was disbanded.

GREAT FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY RESUMES CITY BOOKMOBILE SERVICE

City bookmobile service in Great Falls was resumed on December 12, with staff assistance provided by the city and county Emergency Employment Act programs. Service was discontinued last July when the Library and other city departments were asked to reduce operating expenses by 20 percent. The Library Board has requested revenue sharing funds from the City Council and County Commissioners to restore Monday service at the Library, another service cut last July.

MISSOULA LIBRARY BUILDING PLANS MOVE FORWARD

Final plans and specifications for the City-County Library of Missoula have been completed, and the Library Board is advertising for bids, with plans for awarding a contract for construction in January. The new 40,000-square-foot building will be funded through a county bond issue and a State Library grant from Title II of the Library Services and Construction Act.

PEOPLE

Miss Lyn L. Rausch has joined the staff of the Great Falls Public Library as a reference librarian. Miss Rausch, whose home is in Rochester, Minnesota, received her Master's degree in Library Science from the University of Maryland.

LIBRARY CONFERENCE DATES

The American Library Association will hold its midwinter meeting in Washington, D. C., January 28-February 3, 1973. A highlight of the meeting will be a one-day legislative workshop on February 1. ALA members will also honor members of Congress at a special luncheon on that date. ALA's annual conference will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, June 24-30, 1973.

The Montana Library Association will hold its annual conference in Billings, at the Holiday Inn West, May 10-12, 1973. The MLA Executive Board will meet in Helena in February to complete conference plans.

LIBRARY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Agricultural History Center of the University of California at Davis, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other public and private institutions are cooperating to present a symposium on agricultural history to be held in Davis during the third week of June 1974. The theme will be "Agriculture in the Development of the Far West." Inquiries for further information should be addressed to the Agricultural History Center.

The School of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland, is planning the seventh annual Library Administrators Development Program to be held July 15-27 at the University's Donaldson Brown Center, Port Deposit, Maryland. Inquiries should be addressed to Mrs. Effie T. Knight, Administrative Assistant, Library Administrators Development Program, School of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742.

David R. Hoffman
State Librarian